APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/005,479	01/12/1998	THOMAS MARK LEVERGOOD	OMI95-01A	2543

24573   7590   05/08/2002

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLC
PO BOX 1135
CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135

EXAMINER
WINDER, PATRICE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
Office Action Summary	09/005,479		LEVERGOOD ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Patrice L Winder		2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _04 February 2002_ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
      closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _3,5-26,31-43,49-63,67-93,96-98,100-106 and 108-115_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _3,5-26,31-43,49-63,67-93,96-98,100-106 and 108-115_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
           application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed
> publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2.   Claims 3, 5-6, 13-15, 17-21, 23, 32, 35-38, 49-54, 56-63, 67-75, 77, 79-93, 101-

102, 104, 106, 112-115 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by

José Kahan, A Distributed Authorization Model for WWW (hereafter referred to as

Kahan).

Regarding claim 3, Kahan taught a method of processing service requests from a

client to a server system through a network (abstract) comprising:

forwarding a service request from the client to the server system, wherein the

communications between the client and server system are according to hypertext

transport protocol (abstract);

returning a session identifier from the server system to the client, the client

storing the session identifier for use in subsequent distinct requests to the server

systems (Table 5); and

appending the stored session identifier to each of the subsequent distinct

requests from the client to the server system (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Kahan taught the session identifier includes a user

identifier (grantee's identity, page 4).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Kahan taught the session identifier includes an expiration time for the session (Table 1).

Regarding dependent claim 13, Kahan taught the server system assigns the session identifier to an initial service request to the server system (Table 4).

Regarding dependent claim 14, Kahan taught the server system subjects the client to an authorization routine prior to issuing the session identifier (Table 4) and the session identifier is protected from forgery (Table 1).

Regarding dependent claim 15, Kahan taught plural servers including an authentication server which provides session identifier for service requests to multiple servers (Figure 1, page 3).

Regarding dependent claim 17, Kahan taught a method wherein the session identifier includes a user identifier (grantee's identity, page 4).

Regarding dependent claim 18, Kahan taught the session identifier has an expiration time includes an expiration time for the session (Table 4).

Regarding dependent claim 19, Kahan taught the session identifier provides access to a protected domain to which the session has access authorization (page 3).

Regarding dependent claim 20, Kahan taught the session identifier is modified for access to a different protected domain (access rights are generated per root document, page 6).

Regarding dependent claim 21, Kahan taught the session identifier provides a key identifier for key management (grantee identifier, page 5).

Regarding dependent claim 23, Kahan taught the access rights of the client are fully contained within the session identifier (Tables 1-3).

Regarding dependent claim 32, Kahan taught the authorization identifier is encoded within a session identifier which is appended to the requested (Table 5).

Regarding claim 35, Kahan taught an information system on a network (abstract), comprising:

means for receiving service requests from client and for determining whether a service request includes a session identifier, wherein communications to and from the clients are according to hypertext transfer protocol (Table 5);

means for providing the session identifier in response to an initial service request in a session of requests (Table 4);

means for storing, at the client, the session identifier for use in each communication to the server system (Table 5);

means for appending the stored session identifier to each of subsequent service communications from the client the server system (Table 5); and

means for servicing the subsequent service requests (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 36, Kahan taught the access rights of the client are fully contained within the session identifier (Table 1).

Regarding dependent claim 37, Kahan taught the means for providing the session identifier is in a server system which services the requests (Figure 1).

Regarding dependent claim 49, Kahan taught the session identifier is cryptographically generated (Table 1).

Regarding dependent claim 50, Kahan taught further comprising:

returning a response to the client, the response redirecting an initial service

request to an authentication server, the authentication server providing the session

identifier (Table 7).

Regarding dependent claim 51, Kahan taught wherein the session identifier is

appended to at least one path name in a document returned by the server system

(implementation including Sessioneer, page 13).

Regarding dependent claim 52, Kahan taught the at least one path name is a link

in the returned document (implementation including Sessioneer, page 13).

Regarding dependent claim 53, Kahan taught the link is an absolute link (node

links directed to document, page 13).

Regarding dependent claim 54, Kahan taught the link comprises a uniform

resource locator (node links are URLs, page 13).

Regarding dependent claim 56, Kahan taught the session identifier is

cryptographically generated (Table 4).

Regarding dependent claim 57, Kahan taught the session identifier is directed to

an accessible domain (documents within an authorization domain, page 3).

Regarding dependent claim 58, Kahan taught the session identifier includes an

expiration time for the session (Table 4).

Regarding dependent claim 59, Kahan taught the session identifier comprises a

date (based on global clock, page 5).

Regarding dependent claim 60, Kahan taught the session identifier comprises a key identifier (Grantee identifier, GIA, page 5).

Regarding dependent claim 61, Kahan taught the session identifier comprises an address of the client (Grantee identifier, GIA, page 5).

Regarding dependent claim 62, Kahan taught the session identifier comprises an unforgeable digital signature (page 4).

Regarding dependent claim 63, Kahan taught the authorization identifier is provided by an authentication server (Figure 1, page 3).

Regarding dependent claim 67, Kahan taught the session identifier is designated by the server system (authorization domain, Figure 1), further comprising the steps of:

validating, at the server system, the appended session identifier (Table 5);

returning a controlled document if the appended session identifier is valid (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 75, Kahan taught the session identifier facilitates authenticated accesses across multiple servers (Table 7).

Regarding claim 79, Kahan taught a method of processing service requests from a client to a server system through a network (abstract),

forwarding the service request from the client to the server system, wherein the communications between the client and server system are according to hypertext transfer protocol (abstract);

returning a session identifier from the server system to the client, the client storing the session identifier for use in subsequent communications (Table 4);

at the client, appending as part of a path name in a uniform resource locator the

stored session identifier to each subsequent service request from the client to the

service system within a session requests (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 101, Kahan taught the session identifier is appended

by the client (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 102, Kahan taught the session identifier is

cryptographically generated (Table 4).

Regarding dependent claim 104, Kahan taught the document is returned

electronically (Table 5).

Regarding dependent claim 106, Kahan taught the authorization identifier is

appended to a uniform resource locator (implementation in combination with

Sessioneer, page 13).

Regarding claims 112-115, the language of claims 112-115 is substantially the

same as previously rejected claims 3, 5-6, 13-15, 17-21, 23, 32, 35-38, 49-54, 56-63,

67-75, 77, 79-93. Therefore, claims 112-115 are rejected on the same rationale as

claims 3, 5-6, 13-15, 17-21, 23, 32, 35-38, 49-54, 56-63, 67-75, 77, 79-93.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 7-12, 22, 24-26, 31, 33-34, 39-43, 55, 76, 78, 108-111 are rejected under

35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Kahan in view of Filepp et al., U.S. Patent No.

5,347,632 (hereafter referred to as Filepp).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Kahan does not specifically teach the server

system recording a transaction log. However, Filepp taught a method wherein the

server system records information in a transaction log in the server system (col. 93,

lines 28-30).

Regarding dependent claim 8, Kahan does not specifically teach the server

tracking the access history of the session. However, Filepp taught a server system that

tracks the access history of sequences of service requests within a session of requests

(col. 93, lines 16-24).

Regarding dependent claim 9, Kahan does not specifically teach the server

system tracking the access history to determine requests leading to purchases.

However, Filepp taught the server system tracking the access history to determine

requests leading to purchases (within usage characteristics, col. 93, lines 28-30).

Regarding dependent claim 10, Kahan does not specifically teach a server

system counting the requests. However, Filepp taught a server system counts requests

to particular services exclusive of repeated requests from a common client (col. 93,

lines 28-34).

Regarding dependent claim 11, Kahan does not specifically teach a database

relating customer information to access patterns. However, Filepp taught the server

system maintains a database relating customer information to access patterns (col. 93, lines 28-43).

Regarding dependent 12, Kahan does not specifically teach information that includes customer demographics. However, Filepp taught wherein the information includes customer demographics (col. 9, lines 38-44).

Regarding dependent claim 22, Kahan does not specifically teach a transaction log in the server system. However, Filepp taught a method wherein the server system records information from the session identifier in a transaction log in the server system (col. 93, lines 27-47).

Regarding dependent claim 24, Kahan taught a service request is for a document (Table 5) and the session identifier includes a user identification (grantee's identity, page 4), further comprising:

returning the requested document (Table 5). Kahan does not specifically teach wherein the document is customized for a particular user based on the user identification of the session identifier. However, Filepp taught the document is customized for a particular user based on the user identification of the session identifier (col. 9, lines 27-47).

Regarding dependent claim 25, Kahan taught a service request is for a document, the session identifier comprises an authorization identifier (Table 1-3), and further comprising:

returning the requested document if the authorization identifier indicates that the user is authorized to access the document (Table 5). Kahan does not specifically teach

a document which has been purchased by the user. However, Filepp taught a document

which has been purchased by the user (col. 6, lines 45-51, 56-60)

Regarding dependent claim 26, Kahan taught a service request is for a document

wherein the session identifier comprises a user identifier (grantee's identity, page 3,

Table 1), further comprising:

returning the requested document to the client (Table 5). Kahan does not

specifically teach charging the user identified in the identifier for access to the

document. However, Filepp taught charging the user identified in the identifier for

access to the document (col. 6, lines 57-61).

Regarding dependent claim 31, Kahan taught at least one service request

comprises a document request, wherein the session identifier comprises an

authorization identifier (Table 1-3), the method further comprising:

returning the requested document if the authorization identifier indicates the user

is authorized to access the document (Table 5). Kahan does not specifically teach a

document which has been purchased by a user. However, Filepp taught a document

which has been purchased by a user (col. 6, lines 45-51, 56-60).

Regarding dependent claim 33, Kahan taught at least one service request

comprises a request for a document (Table 5), wherein the session identifier is

designated by the server system (Table 5), said method comprising:

returning the requested document to the client (Table 5). Kahan does not

specifically teach charging the user identified in the session identifier for access to the

document. However, Filepp taught charging the user identified in the session identifier

for access to the document (col. 6, lines 57-61).

Regarding dependent claim 34, Kahan taught a user identifier is encoded within

a session identifier which is appended to the request (grantee identity, page 4).

Regarding dependent claim 55, Kahan does not specifically teach the step of

appending the session identifier comprises filtering the requested document. However,

Filepp taught filtering the requested document (filtering by providing customized

advertisements, col. 9, lines 38-44)

Regarding dependent claim 76, Kahan does not specifically teach the document

is customized for a particular based on user identification of the session identifier.

However, Filepp taught the document is customized for a particular based on user

identification of the session identifier (col. 9, lines 27-47).

Regarding dependent claim 108, Kahan does not specifically teach purchasing a

product. However, Filepp taught a service request is a request to purchase a product

(col. 6, lines 45-51).

Regarding dependent claim 109, Filepp taught the product is transmitted over a

network (col. 6, lines 45-51, 56-60).

Regarding dependent claim 110, Filepp taught the product is a newspaper/

newsletter article (col. 6, lines 45-51, 56-60).

Regarding dependent claim 111, Filepp taught the product is a durable product

(col. 6, lines 56-60).

As to dependent claims, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Filepp's features in Kahan's authorization system would have improved system flexibility. The motivation would have been to adapt Kahan's distributed authorization system to the individual needs of the potential users.

5.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over in view of Johnson et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,560,008 (hereafter referred to as Johnson).

Regarding dependent claim 16, Kahan does not teach another method of redirecting. However, Johnson taught a method wherein a client directs a service request to a first server which is to provide the requested service;

the first server checks the service request for a session identifier (credential id) and only services a request having a valid session identifier (credential id),

and where the service request has no valid identifier, the first server redirects the service request from the client to the authorization server (authentication agent);

the authorization server (authentication agent) subjects the client to the authorization routine and issues the session identifier (credential id) to be appended to the service request to the first server;

the client forwards the service request appended with the session identifier (credential id) to the first server;

the first server recognizes the session identifier (credential id) and services the service request to the client; and,

the client appends the session identifier (credential id) to subsequent service requests to the server system and is serviced without further authorization. Benson does not specifically teach an authorization server. However, Kahan taught a client, a first server, and an authorization server (Figure 2, col. 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Johnson's redirecting mechanism to subsequent requests in Kahan distributed authorization system would have improved system transparency. The motivation would have been to alleviate the user from having to remember which documents require access rights and which documents do not.

6.   Claims 96-98, 100, 103 and 105 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahan in view of Dedrick, U.S. Patent No. 5,768,521 (hereafter referred to as Dedrick).

Regarding dependent claim 96, Kahan does not specifically teach how a user is charged. However, Dedrick taught servicing a request (col. 3, lines 50-56); and automatically charging a user identified by the session identifier for the service provided (col. 3, lines 60-63).

Regarding dependent claim 97, Kahan does not specifically teach a purchase request. However, Dedrick taught at least one service request comprises a purchase request (review of the request indicates the user is not a subscriber), the purchase request including an associated user identifier (request includes information identifying whether the user is a subscriber), the method further comprising:accessing, upon receipt of the purchase request at the server system, user information associated with

the user identifier sufficient to charge an account associated with the user the purchase

price of the product identified by the purchase request (col. 3, lines 31-41, 60-63);

charging the user for the product identified by the purchase request according to

the user information (col. 7, lines 29-35); and

fulfilling the purchase request based on the user information (col. 7, lines 35-37).

Regarding dependent claim 98, Kahan taught the client includes the user

identifier in a session identifier (grantee's identity, page 3) and taught the session

identifier appended to the request (Table 5). Kahan does not specifically teach the

request is a purchase request. However, Dedrick taught the request is a purchase

request (col. 7, lines 32-37)

Regarding dependent claim 100, Kahan does not specifically teach how a

purchasing request. However, Dedrick taught under control of a client system,

displaying information identifying a product (col. 7, lines 18-23); and

in response to a user selection of a hyperlink (inherent, information distributed

according to hypertext markup language, col. 4, lines 36-38) associated with a product

desired to be purchased, sending a request to purchase the item along with an identifier

of a purchaser of the item to a server system (id whether client is a subscriber, col. 7,

lines 18-26); and

under the control of the server system, upon receiving the request, retrieving

additional information previously stored for the purchaser identified by the identifier in

the received request (retrieving profile containing account information, col. 3, lines 31-

41, 60-63);

charging the user the purchase price of the product (metering server debits the user account, col. 7, lines 32-37); and

fulfilling the request for the product (sending information, col. 7, lines 32-37).

Regarding dependent claim 103, Kahan does not specifically teach how a user is charged. However, Dedrick taught identifying the user from the authorization identifier (identifying subscriber authorization, col. 3, lines 50-56); and

automatically charging the identified user for the document (col. 3, lines 60-63).

Regarding dependent claim 105, Kahan does not specifically teach a physical copy of the document is sent. However, Dedrick taught a physical copy of the document is sent (through the purchasing options the user is able to retrieve requested information by printing, i.e. physical copy, col. 3, lines 25-27).

Regarding claims 96, 97, 100, 103, 105, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Dedrick's metering mechanisms for charging users for electronic information in Kahan's distributed authorization system would have extended the system to incorporate more mechanism to provide a better interactive environment. The motivation would have to provide a mechanism to allow a system to automatically debit and bill a user for consuming requested electronic information from the web database (Dedrick, col. 1, lines 54-56).

Statements concerning the remaining claims

The language of claims 38-43 is substantially equivalent to the language of previously rejected claims 14, 7-8, 10-12. Therefore, claims 38-43 are rejected on the same rationale as claims 14, 7-8, 10-12, respectively.

The language of claims 68-74 is substantially equivalent to the language of previously rejected claims 56-62. Therefore, claims 68-74 are rejected on the same rationale as claims 56-62, respectively.
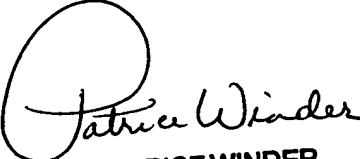
The language of claims 77-78 is substantially equivalent to the language of previously rejected claims 51 and 55. Therefore, claims 77-78 are rejected on the same rationale as claims 51 and 55, respectively.

The language of claims 80-93 is substantially equivalent to the language of previously rejected claims 49-62. Therefore, claims 80-93 are rejected on the same rationale as claims 49-62, respectively.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Patrice Winder whose telephone number is (703) 305-

3938. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:30 AM to 7:00

PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh, can be reached on (703) 305-9648. The fax phone number(s)

for this Group are after final (703) 746-7238; official (703) 746-7239 and non-

official/draft (703) 746-7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is

(703) 305-3900.

PATRICE WINDER
PRIMARY EXAMINER